

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 00732 161334Z
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 /030 W
-----021842 161501Z /43

R 161324Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2060
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 00732

FOR INR/RNA

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINT, UK, PK
SUBJECT: LONDON COMMITTEE FOR DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT
IN PAKISTAN

1. FCO OFFICERS SAY THEY UNDERSTAND THAT THIS COMMITTEE APPEARS TO BE THE WORK OF A PROFESSIONAL PUBLIC RELATIONS FIRM IN LONDON, AND THAT PRESUMABLY THE FIRM HAS BEEN PAID BY THE BHUTTO FAMILY. FCO OFFICERS ALSO COMMENT THAT WHAT IS INTERESTING ABOUT THIS COMMITTEE IS THAT THERE IS NO OUTWARD EVIDENCE OF ANY PAKISTANI PARTICIPATION IN IT; ITS MEMBERS APPEAR TO BE BRITISH.

2. ACCORDING TO THE ORIGINAL ANNOUNCEMENT, THE INITIAL MEMBERSHIP LAST NOVEMBER CONSISTED OF CLAUD ROSS, WHO PUBLISHES "VOICE OF THE ARAB WORLD" IN LONDON, AND WHO ISSUED THE INVITATIONS TO THE FIRST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE; JONATHAN AITKEN, A CONSERVATIVE MP WITH INTERESTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST; AND LORD LYONS OF BRIGHTON, AN "ADVISER" TO SOME AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS. COMMITTEE'S POLICY STATEMENT CLAIMS THAT IT SUPPORTS NO POLITICAL PARTY, THAT ITS SOLE OBJECTIVE IS A RETURN TO FREE ELECTIONS IN PAKISTAN, AND THAT ITS METHODS OF OPERATION ARE TO PUBLISH OCCASIONAL
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ANNOUNCEMENTS TO MAINTAIN INTEREST IN AND SUPPORT FOR THE CAMPAIGN FOR FREE ELECTIONS IN PAKISTAN. NEITHER FCO NOR EMBASSY ACCEPTED INVITATION TO INITIAL MEETING OF COMMITTEE LAST NOVEMBER.

3. SEE ALSO KINSOLVING TO HAGERTY LETTER OF DECEMBER 22, 1977, OF WHICH COPY WAS SENT TO DIRECTOR, NEA/PAB.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP AN EYE ON THE ACTIVITIES
OF THIS COMMITTEE.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEES, FORM OF GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LONDON00732
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Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780160/aaaabyis.tel
Line Count: 64
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Subject: LONDON COMMITTEE FOR DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT IN PAKISTAN
TAGS: PINT, UK, PK
To: STATE
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